

UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: BAINBRIDGE, Andrew Philip Art Unit: 3754

Re: Application of: Udo Suffa
Serial No.: 10/512,007
Filed: August 25, 2005
For: **SELF-CLOSING VALVE**
Confirmation No. 2288

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

June 11, 2008

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on May 13, 2008, the following remarks are made:

Concerning the requirement of election of species, Applicant elects to further prosecute in this case the species corresponding to Figure 1, a valve with a retaining ring, in the event that no generic claim is finally held allowable. It is believed that claims 35-51, 59, 61, and 67-69 currently read on the elected species.

This response is being filed within the required period. No fee is believed to be due. If, on the other hand, it is determined that any further fees are due or any overpayment has been made, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit or credit such sum to deposit account 02-2275. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), please treat this and any concurrent or future reply in this application that requires a petition for an extension of time for its timely submission as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The fee associated therewith is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2275.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

LUCAS & MERCANTI LLP

By:


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CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this document is being electronically transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents via EFS-Web on June 11, 2008.

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP


BY: Carla Curado